

has the highest winning percentage of any Tennessee coach, and is the winningest active coach in the country.

So today, I congratulate them. With that kind of coaching, talent and an ability to work powerfully as a team, it's not hard to see why the Tennessee Vols have come so far this season.

Mr. President, I know many of my colleagues have experienced this kind of excitement and pride with teams from their own states. And I know they appreciate just how proud we are in Tennessee to get bragging rights for this season.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that statements regarding the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 21) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, is as follows:

S. RES. 21

Whereas the University of Tennessee Volunteers football team (referred to in this resolution as the "Tennessee Volunteers") defeated the Florida State University Seminoles on January 4, 1999, at the Fiesta Bowl in Tempe, Arizona, to win the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I-A football championship;

Whereas the Tennessee Volunteers completed the 1998 football season with a perfect record of 13 wins and 0 losses;

Whereas the Tennessee Volunteers defeated the Mississippi State University Bulldogs to claim the 1998 Southeastern Conference football championship;

Whereas the Tennessee Volunteers' Coach Phillip Fulmer, his staff, and his players displayed outstanding dedication, teamwork, selflessness, and sportsmanship throughout the course of the season to achieve collegiate football's highest honor; and

Whereas the Tennessee Volunteers have brought pride and honor to Tennessee: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the University of Tennessee Volunteers football team on winning the 1998 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I-A football championship; and

(2) commends the University of Tennessee Volunteers football team for its pursuit of athletic excellence and its outstanding accomplishment in collegiate football in winning the championship.

ORDER FOR RECORD TO REMAIN OPEN

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that today's RECORD remain open until 6 p.m. for the introduction of bills and statements.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

JOINT SESSION OF THE TWO HOUSES—ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. HUTCHISON. I ask unanimous consent that the President of the Senate be authorized to appoint a committee on the part of the Senate to join with a like committee on the part of the House of Representatives to escort the President of the United States into the House Chamber for the joint session to be held at 9 p.m. this evening, Tuesday, January 19, 1999.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMERICA AT A MORAL CROSSROADS

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I have sent to the desk a slate of legislation that addresses a number of our Nation's most pressing social problems. I have introduced a great many of these bills in prior Congressional sessions and Senators who have been around for a while will find these proposals familiar.

Nonetheless, I shall devote a few minutes to explain the importance of these bills and why it is so crucial to address permissive social policies that are creating a moral and spiritual crisis in our country.

I am delighted, Mr. President, that our Nation's economy has grown and prospered for the last two years—helped along, not incidentally, by the responsible fiscal policies insisted upon by the Republican Congress. But the good news on the financial pages is too often overshadowed by utterly horrifying stories elsewhere, stories which detail a moral sickness at the heart of our culture, stories which chronicle the devaluation of human life in our society, symbolized by the tragic 1973 Supreme Court decision, *Roe v. Wade*.

The most notorious of these appalling stories was the episode involving a young New Jersey woman who in May of 1997 gave birth to an infant in a public bathroom stall during her senior prom. She then strangled her newborn baby boy, placed the body in a trash can, adjusted her makeup, and returned to the dance floor.

Mr. President, this chilling tale cries out that something is badly wrong in the culture that produced it. The American people were justifiably stunned by the furor surrounding this crime—and they are surely even more shocked to learn that this is not an isolated incident.

Consider this: In November of 1997, in Tucson, Arizona, a 15-year-old boy found a newborn in a 3-pound coffee can. After an investigation, police arrested the boy's sister, then 19 years of age. She had given birth to the baby and promptly drowned it in the toilet, covered its little head with a plastic ice cream wrapper, wrapped the body in a flannel shirt and hidden it. She said she had intended to bury it later.

Despite these largely uncontested facts, an Arizona jury—browbeaten into submission by a defense team suggesting that its client was in fact the victim of a strict Catholic upbringing—returned a guilty verdict only on a charge of negligent homicide, the least severe conviction applicable. This woman, who had murdered her own baby, received a sentence of one year, and during her prison term, she will be released during daytime hours on a work furlough program.

This is the tip of the iceberg, Mr. President. National Public Radio recently reported that the bodies of about 250 newborns are callously discarded each year. In some of these cases the babies were stillborn, but in others, the newborns were murdered.

Lest anyone think I am exaggerating, pick up almost any newspaper in America, and a distressing story is likely to be found. For example:

The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, August 12, 1997: Teenage Mother Admits Slaying: Newborn was Found Dead in Gym Bag in Garage of Home

The Record, Northern New Jersey, December 24, 1997: 12 Years for Mom Who Killed Baby: Newborn Tossed From Window

Associated Press, Atlantic City, New Jersey, July 14, 1997: Baby Born in Toilet Stall, Left in Atlantic City Bus Terminal

St. Petersburg Times, December 20, 1997: Girl Charged who Left Baby in Trash

Dallas Morning News, October 29, 1997: Teen Jailed in Baby's Death Hid Pregnancy, Parents say Newborn Boy Was Found Suffocated in Garbage Bag

Should we really be surprised, Mr. President, that a Nation that not only tolerates, but actively defends the practice of partial birth abortion would produce these gruesome headlines? And the extraordinary level of disrespect for human life to which America has fallen isn't limited to the horrible practice of neonaticide on the part of young mothers. It pervades every part of our society.

In Pennsylvania, two teenagers were stabbed during a showing of a so-called "horror movie" that itself featured two characters being brutally stabbed to death watching a horror film. In Oregon, much of the Nation watched in disbelief as news reports described the case of a young man who, after killing his parents, walked into a crowded school cafeteria and opened fire on his fellow students.

No one Act of Congress or court decision is solely responsible for these tragedies, of course. But can it be denied that the decline in moral values in American culture helped set the stage for these notorious crimes? The American people believe this is true. Last year, CBS and CNN/Time both conducted polls indicating more Americans believe that a lack of moral values was the most important problem facing the United States—more important than crime, more important than